FILM SAID TO SHOW OSWALD HAD HELP

But Footage Shot by an Amateur Prior to the Kennedy Murder Is Inconclusive to Some

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WASHINGTON, Nov. 26 — A seven-second film was shown to a crowded room of journalists and assassination buffs here today, purporting to show the presence of more than one person in the windows of the sixth floor of the Texas School Book Depository building in Dallas minutes before President John F. Kennedy was killed by shots fired from the vicinity of the windows.

The film and individual frames of it, which were copies and enlarged by more than 1,000 times their original size, did not show conclusively to the layman's naked eye the presence of at least two human figures in the windows.

The eight-millimeter film was taken by an amateur photographer, Charles L. Bronson, a metallurgist from Ada, Okla. He had used a wide-angle lens and was standing about one block from the building while he was filming, six to nine minutes before Mr. Kennedy was killed 15 years ago last week.

His film was viewed by the Federal Bureau of Investigation three days after the assassination and was deemed "not sufficiently clear for identification purposes."

Returned to the Photographer

The film was subsequently returned to Mr. Bronson and apparently was never viewed by other organizations investigating the assassination.

The existence of the film was disclosed almost a year ago when the F.B.I. made available to the public some 90,000 pages of previously classified documents relating to President Kennedy's murder.

Members of the Assassination Information Bureau, an organization of critics of the Warren Commission findings in the Kennedy assassination, read of the existence of the film and contacted a reporter for the Dallas Morning News, who in turn located Mr. Bronson and the film.

The Dallas newspaper published several articles about the film and printed nine photographs of the enlarged movie frames in this morning's editions. In what appeared to be a carefully orchestrated presentation, the Assassination Information Bureau then called a news conference this afternoon and distributed copies of the newspaper and press releases. Also present was Mr. Bronson's attorney, John Sigalos of Dallas.

No Photographs Permitted

No photographs of the film or of the slide enlargements were permitted so that Mr. Bronson's "best interest could be protected," Mr. Sigalos said. He added later that Mr. Bronson was not claiming that the film disclosed anything new or startling, but that he was simply cooperating with the newspaper and the Assassination Information Bureau "because he has no reason not to." Mr. Sigalos said he was retained by Mr. Bronson after arrangements with the newspaper and the information bureau had been completed.

After the film was located by the newspaper, it was sent to Robert J. Groden, a photography technician in Hope Lawn, N.J., who had performed "photo-enhancement" work on the famous Abraham Zapruder film of the President being shot. Mr. Groden also had testified before the House Select Committee on Assassinations and had been paid by the committee occasionally as a consultant, although he had not been selected to be on the committee's panel of photographic experts.

Mr. Groden said today that "it is beyond question" that there were two figures moving at the windows from which the Warren Commission and the House committee maintain the fatal shots were fired.

If his interpretation of the photographs is correct, it could disprove contentions that Lee Harvey Oswald acted alone in killing Mr. Kennedy.

Frames Grainy and Blurred

However, the film and the enlarged frames are exceedingly grainy and blurred. If they disclose anything to the layman's eye, it is perhaps one figure in one window.

Mr. Groden, who has previously said that he thought there was photographic evidence of shots being fired from other directions, said he was "now certain there is no question" of there being more than one person at the windows. And he said that computer enhancing of the photographs would make the point even more conclusively.

He told the Dallas newspaper, which hired him to analyze the film, that it showed that a "sniper's nest" was being completed just prior to the arrival of President Kennedy's motorcade at Dealy Plaza, where the President was shot.

However, the alleged moving figure Mr. Broden pointed out today was supposedly standing in a different window than the ones the Dallas newspaper presented in its page of nine frame enlargements. Mr. Groden said that one person on the sixth floor could be seen "moving rapidly" in the third window from one corner of the building, while another figure was moving between the two sections of a double window.

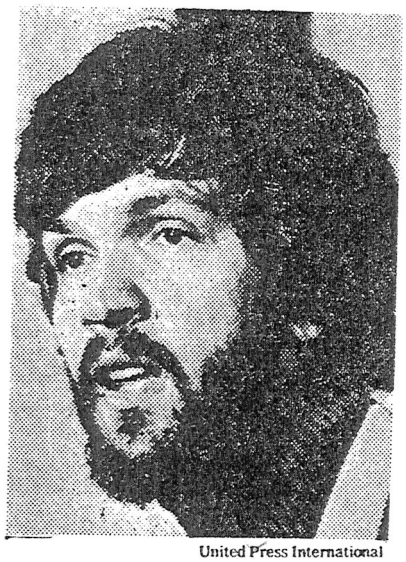
The newspaper article maintained that the two figures were in the same double window and disregarded the possibility of a person in the third window.

Mr. Groden was adamant today, and repeatedly pointed out the area with his finger, that the significant new find was the presence of a figure in the third window.

He and the representatives of the Assassination Information Bureau said they would take their copies of the film and the close-up frames to the House assassinations committee.

G. Robert Blakey, chief counsel to the committee, said the committee had not been previously alerted to the presence of the film.

The committee goes out of existence in five weeks and may not have either the time or the money to further analyze the film.



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Robert J. Groden, a photography technician, claims there are two figures moving at windows where Lee Harvey Oswald fired fatal shots.

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